

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 372

By Finney R.

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the Seymour High School Choral Department upon being named number one choir in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, Tennessee has long been known throughout the world for its rich music heritage, and it is fitting that this General Assembly recognize those students who bring honor to the State of Tennessee through their musical talents and endeavors in musical performance; and

WHEREAS, under the able guidance of Choral Director Jean Burkhart, the Seymour High School (SHS) Choral Department has achieved an extraordinary level of success, being named the number one choir in Tennessee for the second year in a row and being the only choir in Tennessee to have achieved an A+ rating in the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) State Choral Festival; and

WHEREAS, at the same ACDA State Choral Festival, the SHS Freshman Choir tied for fourth place, earning an A rating; and

WHEREAS, the SHS Choral Department performs frequently for the Seymour community, and is much beloved and respected by all Sevier Countians; and

WHEREAS, during this school year, the SHS Choral Department's performances include the Thirteenth Annual Veterans Day program; the Judy Wade Winter Concert; Guest Choir at Austin Peay College; Combination of the SHS Freshman Choir with Seymour Middle School's Choir to perform at the National ACDA Convention, which is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a junior high school choir; *My Fair Lady*; and the Cristin Sutphin Scholarship Concert; and

WHEREAS, singing a rich variety of choral music, the tremendously talented Seymour High School Choral Department is comprised of members who excel individually or in small groups, including Marcus Baker, who was named the Number One Tenor at Tennessee's All-

State Festival, and who will advance to national competition; two students who won first prize as a duet in a Broadway musical competition; and three young women who will perform at the National Beta Concert; and

WHEREAS, in addition to these accomplishments, the newly-formed SHS Choral Department jazz class has won first place in a competition, with two of the three judges giving the choir a perfect score; also, college and university music scholarships for graduating seniors will exceed \$20,000 this year; and

WHEREAS, diligently practicing every week, these students have developed a deep appreciation for music in addition to cultivating their musical talents; each year, the Choral Department strives to set the bar of accomplishment higher and seeks to set new firsts; and

WHEREAS, driven by their common desire and ability to dazzle audiences with high quality performances, the Seymour High School Choral Department's success serves as a testament to the amazing musical talent of Tennessee's youth; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to honor this outstanding group of young Tennesseans; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate the Seymour High School Choral Department upon being named number one choir in Tennessee and wish them every success in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.